Trucks pass through detection systems at RNCTEC at the NNSS.

Mission

To support operations involving nuclear detection test and evaluation with a unique capability to test with special radioactive materials.

NEVADA NATIONAL NNSS SECURITY SITE

Global Security

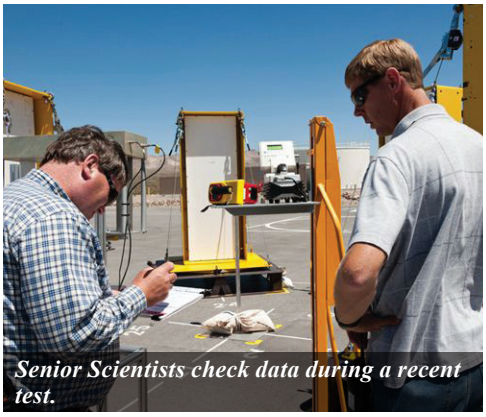
Radiological/Nuclear Countermeasures Test and Evaluation Complex (RNCTEC)

Introduction

The Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) is the home of the Radiological/ Nuclear Countermeasures Test and Evaluation Complex (RNCTEC), a multi-use test and evaluation platform that serves the U.S. Homeland Security mission.

RNCTEC provides the nation with the necessary facilities and capabilities to validate the performance of systems used to protect the United States from the threat of a terrorist radiological or nuclear attack, whether under development or already deployed. RNCTEC provides an environment tailored to customer requirements.

RNCTEC is also used for assessing the ability of nuclear detection systems to identify/locate radioactive materials. Specific nuclear sources include medical/industrial isotopes, naturally occurring radioactive material and special nuclear material. The goal is to improve the U.S. ability to detect and interdict nuclear payloads intended for illicit use.



Senior Scientists check data during a recent test.

The complex will test and evaluate sensors that will be deployed to U.S. border crossings, such as this one.

Advanced Spectroscopic Portals

Capabilities and expertise include:

- Wireless and hardwired data collection system that is defensible and test-specific
- Dedicated data collection server
- Commerce simulating loads, including naturally occurring radioactive materials and naturally attenuating materials
- Barcoding capability for configuration control
- Accelerator pit (concrete lined, 12 feet by 30 feet by 17 feet deep)
- Control room with the capability to provide cameras that deliver a 360-degree view of test bed
- Enhanced staging capability
- Simulated land border crossing
- Paved test area
- Developmental testing facility where artificial intelligence systems, hand-held or other passive types of radiation detectors may be tested

NNSA
National Nuclear Security Administration

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Sensors are configured on the test pad.